

**FARM FACTS***"FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE"*

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New Jersey milk production decreased 7 percent in 2004 to 200 million pounds. The rate per cow, at 16,667 pounds, was 52 pounds above 2003. The annual average number of cows on farms was 12,000 head, 1,000 head less than in 2003.

Marketings of utilized milk totaled 197 million pounds, 8 percent below 2003. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers, as well as milk sold directly to consumers. Producer returns averaged \$16.40 per hundredweight, 28 percent above 2003.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2004, at \$32.3 million, was 19 percent above 2003. Value of New Jersey milk produced in 2004 totaled \$32.8 million compared to \$27.6 million in 2003, up 19 percent from previous year.

United States milk production increased 0.2 percent in 2004 to 170.8 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 18,957 pounds, was 197 pounds above 2003. The annual average number of milk cows on farms, at 9.01 million head, was 73,000 head less than 2003.

Marketings of utilized milk totaled 170 billion pounds, 0.2 percent above 2003. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers, as well as milk sold directly to consumers. Producer returns averaged \$16.13 per hundredweight, 29 percent above 2003.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2004, at \$27.4 billion, was 29 percent above 2003. Value of milk produced nationally, in 2004, totaled \$27.5 billion compared to \$21.4 billion produced the previous year, up 29 percent.

**Milk Cows, Production of Milk, Income, and Value of Production:
By Selected States and United States, Revised 2003 and 2004**

State	Units	Maryland		New Jersey		New York		Pennsylvania		United States	
		2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
Milk Cows 1/	1,000 Head	78	74	13	12	671	655	575	562	9,083	9,010
Milk per Cow 2/	Average Pounds	15,577	15,703	16,615	16,667	17,812	17,786	17,979	17,904	18,760	18,957
Total Production 2/	Million Pounds	1,215	1,162	216	200	11,952	11,650	10,338	10,062	170,394	170,805
Milk Utilized	Million Pounds	1,205	1,153	213	197	11,905	11,608	10,327	10,051	169,276	169,699
Average Returns 3/	Dollars Per Cwt	13.30	17.00	12.80	16.40	13.10	16.80	14.00	17.60	12.55	16.13
Cash Receipts	1,000 Dollars	160,265	196,010	27,264	32,308	1,559,555	1,950,144	1,445,780	1,768,976	21,238,737	27,367,858
Value 4/ 5/	1,000 Dollars	161,595	197,540	27,648	32,800	1,565,712	1,957,200	1,447,320	1,770,912	21,381,324	27,549,413

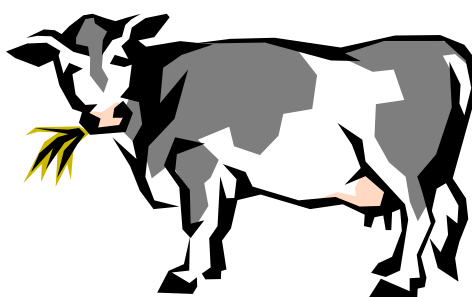
1/ Averaged number during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

3/ Cash receipts divided by milk or milkfat in combined marketings.

4/ Value at average returns per 100 pounds of milk in combined marketings of milk and cream.

5/ Includes value of milk fed to calves.



New Jersey Floriculture: Selected Crops and State Totals, 2003 - 2004

Plant Type	Units	Operations with \$100,000+ Sales					
		Growers		Quantity Sold		Wholesale Value 1/	
		2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
		Number		1,000 Units		1,000 Dollars	
Bedding/Garden Plants, Total 2/		3/	3/	3/	3/	85,205	89,358
Annuals		3/	3/	3/	3/	50,009	53,422
Hanging Baskets, Geraniums Cuttings	Baskets	74	71	250	257	1,540	1,635
Hanging Baskets, Impatiens	Baskets	58	57	131	132	735	737
Hanging Baskets, New Guinea Impatiens	Baskets	85	82	293	311	1,784	1,938
Other Hanging Baskets, Flowering	Baskets	68	66	453	459	2,985	3,332
Impatiens	Flats	115	111	771	777	5,613	5,765
Petunias	Flats	111	104	360	363	2,740	2,806
Other Flowering and Foliage Type	Flats	106	97	1,504	1,512	10,528	10,902
Potted Geraniums (Cuttings)	Pots	106	105	2,460	2,300	4,190	4,047
Potted New Guinea Impatiens	Pots	97	99	1,411	1,376	2,355	2,344
Other Potted Flowering and Foliar Type	Pots	64	65	1,742	2,328	2,994	4,667
Herbaceous Perennials		3/	3/	3/	3/	35,196	35,936
Potted Hardy/Garden Mums	Pots	98	93	4,088	3,832	8,151	8,055
Other Potted Herbaceous Perennials	Pots	84	82	6,632	6,911	23,917	25,211
Flowering Potted Plants, Total		3/	3/	3/	3/	30,792	29,450
Lilies, Easter	Pots	43	41	635	590	2,242	2,142
Poinsettias	Pots	88	87	2,366	2,219	10,020	9,437
Foliage For Indoor or Patio Use, Total		3/	3/	3/	3/	4,139	3,878
Hanging Baskets, Foliage	Baskets	33	29	161	111	894	689
Potted Foliage	Pots	21	24	4/	4/	3,245	3,189
Growers with Gross Value of Sales		Number of Growers		Covered Area (1,000 Sq Ft)		Expanded Wholesale Value of Sales (\$1,000) 5/	
		2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
\$100,000 and over		186	181	17,038	16,582	129,090	143,196
\$10,000 - \$99,999		233	211	2,894	2,610	21,892	9,451
Total		419	392	19,932	19,192	150,982	152,647

1/ Equivalent wholesale value of all sales.

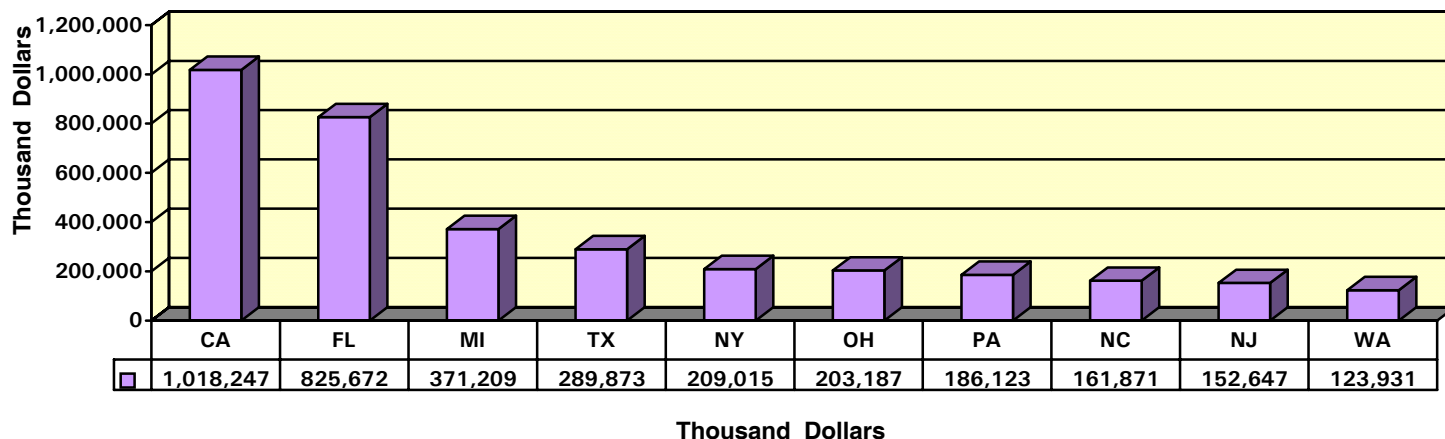
2/ Includes annual bedding plants and herbaceous perennials.

3/ Data not available.

4/ Data not collected.

5/ Wholesale value of sales as reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales of floriculture crops plus a calculated wholesale value of sales for growers with sales below \$100,000. The value of sales for growers below the \$100,000 level was estimated by multiplying the number of growers in each size group by the mid-point of each dollar value range.

Top Ten States: Expanded Wholesale Value, 2004 1/



1/ Wholesale value of sales as reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales of floriculture crops plus a calculated wholesale value of sales for growers with sales below \$100,000. The value of sales for growers below the \$100,000 level was estimated by multiplying the number of growers in each size group by the mid-point of each dollar value range.

Northeast II Region Farm Labor

There were 26,000 hired workers on Northeast II Region farms and ranches the week of April 10, 2005 through April 16, 2005, down 16 percent from a year ago. States included in the Northeast Region II are Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Hours worked during the reference week averaged 39.8, up 1 percent from the previous year.

Farm operators in the Northeast Region II paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.65 per hour during the April 2005 reference week, up 40 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.24 per hour, up 56 cents from last April, while livestock workers earned \$8.62 per hour compared with \$8.87 a year earlier.

In New Jersey, during the reference week, temperatures were below normal in central and south and near normal north. There were no measurable amounts of rainfall across the state.

At the U.S. level, farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.34 per hour, 31 cents less than the Northeast Region II producers paid. There were 746,000 hired workers on farms across the nation. The average number of hours worked during the reference week was 39.8 the same as Northeast Region II.

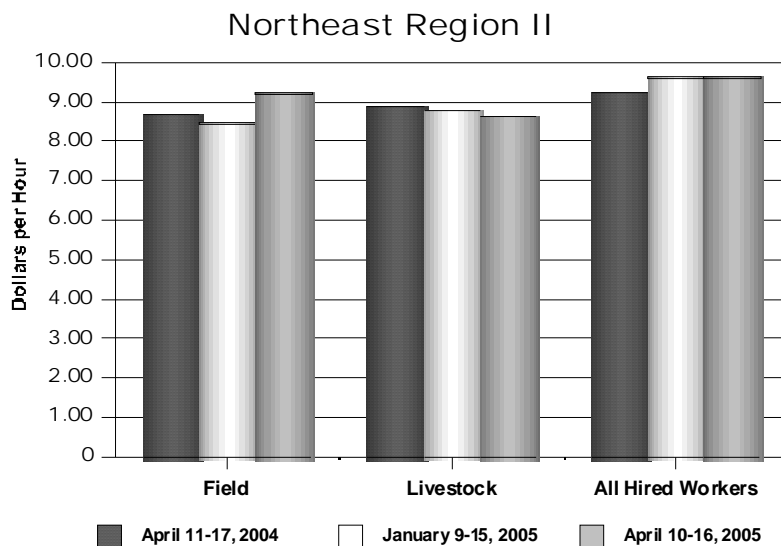
Farm Labor & Wage Rates: Northeast II Region and United States

Items	Northeast II 1/			United States		
	April 11-17, 2004 2/	January 9-15, 2005 2/	April 10-16 2005 2/	April 11-17, 2004 2/	January 9-15, 2005 2/	April 10-16 2005 2/
	<i>Thousand workers</i>			<i>Thousand workers</i>		
Hired Workers 3/	31	18	26	827	589	746
150 Days or More	25	14	22	651	494	596
149 Days or Less	6	4	4	176	95	150
	<i>Per Week</i>			<i>Per Week</i>		
Average Hours Worked (Hired Farm Workers)	39.3	33.7	39.8	40.6	37.0	39.8
	<i>Per Hour</i>			<i>Per Hour</i>		
Average Wage Rate (All Hired Farm Workers)	\$9.25	\$9.66	\$9.65	\$9.23	\$9.78	\$9.34
By Type of Workers						
Field	\$8.68	\$8.47	\$9.24	\$8.47	\$8.71	\$8.55
Livestock	\$8.87	\$8.76	\$8.62	\$8.95	\$9.20	\$9.23

1/ Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

2/ Month refers to the week containing the 12th day of the month.

3/ Excludes agricultural service workers.



May Farm Prices Received Index unchanged from Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May 2005, at 122, based on 1990-92=100, is unchanged from April 2005. The Crop and Livestock Index are unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for hogs, strawberries, hay, and potatoes. Lower prices were received for lettuce, broccoli, asparagus, and dairy. The overall index is also affected by the 3-year average seasonal change in the mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of cantaloupes, sweet corn, grapes, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, dairy, calves, and asparagus.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 5.4 percent from May 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 126, is unchanged from last month but 3.8 percent below May 2004.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The May Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 139 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from April 2005 but 3.0 percent above May 2004. Lower prices in May 2005 for feeder pigs, diesel fuel, feed grains, and gasoline offset higher prices for hay and forages, nitrogen fertilizers, complete feeds, and feeder cattle.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	May 2004	Apr 2005	May 2005
- - Dollars - -			
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	2.78	2.32	2.53
Corn, per bushel	2.87	2.00	1.92
Hay, all, baled, per ton ^{1/}	101.00	96.90	107.00
Soybeans, per bushel	9.56	6.03	6.09
Fruit, fresh			
Apples, per lb ^{2/}	0.296	0.170	0.172
Strawberries, per cwt	64.50	62.50	76.30
Vegetables, fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	18.10	25.40	30.10
Lettuce, per cwt	10.50	29.70	14.50
Tomatoes, per cwt	32.20	62.50	56.10
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	88.50	94.00	92.90
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	92.60	98.30	96.90
Cows, per cwt ^{3/}	52.50	57.10	58.70
Calves, per cwt	121.00	140.00	141.00
Broilers, live, per lb ^{4/}	.500	.440	.440
Eggs, all, per dozen ^{1/}	.645	.469	.452
Milk, all, per cwt ^{5/ 6/}	19.30	15.20	14.90

^{1/} Mid-month price.

^{2/} Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, MI, and NY (apples only), and WA (apples, peaches, and pears). Prices as sold for other states.

^{3/} Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

^{4/} Equivalent liveweight returns to producers for most states. Includes growers and contractors.

^{5/} Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

^{6/} May 2005 Fat test percent: all milk 3.60, fluid milk 3.59, and mfg grade 3.78.



To obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service at www.nass.usda.gov/nj/ or call 1-800-328-0179.